

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : General Counsel

DATE: 15 August 1957

FROM : Director of Logistics

SUBJECT: Authority to have Patent Applications placed under Secrecy Orders

1. It is requested that appropriate action be taken to have this Agency included with the other government agencies authorized to request secrecy orders on patent applications under Section 181, Title 35, USC.

2. A certain number of the inventions made in the course of the performance of work for us by private contractors involve subject matter which is classified entirely aside from the Agency's interest in it. Present arrangements with the Patent Office enable us to have patent applications on such subject matter handled on a classified basis. However, when a patent is ready to issue on a patent application there is a definite security problem. A patent is a public document and the Patent Office has no authority to delay or withhold its issuance except at the request of agencies named in Section 181, Title 35, USC, as authorized to request secrecy orders. Unless this Agency can be included under this authority, we either have to declassify the subject matter or require the applicant to abandon his patent. With the desired authority a patent may be granted and placed under secrecy orders, thus protecting both the applicant and the national security.

3. The requested authority would also be of advantage to the technical components of the Agency, inasmuch as they would then be able to examine all patent applications covering subjects of interest to the Agency.

JAMES A. GARRISON

CONCURRENCE:

 Ass't General Counsel

 Date

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OL/SS/ (15 Aug 57)

UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRET

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FROM:

Office of Logistics
1C-46 Qtrs. Eye

TELEPHONE

NO.

DATE

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